

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2372**  
ANSWERED ON-09/08/2021

**ACCIDENTS ON HIGHWAYS DUE TO ROAD ENGINEERING ISSUES**

2372. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :-

- (a) the number of road accidents registered in the last five years due to road engineering issues, and the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has taken up initiatives to restructure and strengthen road safety, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has allocated funds for the same, the details of expenditure and targets thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) Road accidents occur due to multiple causes such as automobile design, over speeding, use of Mobile phone, drunken driving/consumption of alcohol / drug, overloaded Vehicle, vehicular condition, poor light condition, jumping red light, overtaking, neglect of civic bodies, weather condition, fault of driver, driving on wrong side, defect in road condition, defect in condition of motor vehicle, fault of cyclist, fault of pedestrian etc. However, no separate data/record is maintained for accident occurring due to road engineering. Further, as per data available, the total number of road accidents occurred due to potholes during the period from 2016 to 2020 is as under :

Potholes	Number of Accidents				
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
	6424	9423	4869	4775	3564

Also data regarding road accidents by violation of different traffic rules during 2018 and 2019 is attached as per **Annexure –I**.

(b) & (c) The Ministry has formulated a multi-pronged strategy to address the issue of road safety based on Education, Engineering (both of roads and vehicles), Enforcement and Emergency Care. Accordingly, various initiatives have been taken by the Ministry as detailed below :-

i. Education:

- a. The Ministry implements a scheme for undertaking publicity measures and awareness campaigns on road safety to create awareness among road users through the electronic media, print media, NGOs etc.
- b. Observance of National Road Safety Month/Week every year for spreading awareness and strengthening road safety.
- c. A Certification Course for Road Safety Auditors has been commenced in Indian Academy of Highway Engineers (IAHE).

ii. Engineering (both of Roads and vehicles)

- Road engineering:
    - a. High priority to identification and rectification of black spots (accident prone spots) on national highways.
    - b. Road safety has been made an integral part of road design at planning stage.
    - c. Ministry has delegated powers to Regional Officers of MORTH for technical approval to the detailed estimates for rectification of identified Road Accident black spots.
    - d. Guidelines for pedestrian facilities on National Highways for persons with disabilities have also been issued to all States / UTs.
  - Vehicle engineering:
    - a. Safety standards for automobiles have been improved in respect of Airbags, Anti-Breaking System (ABS), Tyres, Crash test, Whole Vehicle Safety Conformity of Production (WVSCoP).
    - b. Ministry has notified fitment of Speed Limiting devices on all transport vehicles.
    - c. Scheme for setting up one model Inspection & Certification Centre in each State/UT with Central assistance for testing the fitness of vehicles through an automated system.
  - iii. Enforcement
    - a. The recently passed motor vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019 provides for strict enforcement through use of technology and further provides for strict penalties for ensuring strict compliance and enhancing deterrence for violation of traffic rules.
    - b. Issue of Guidelines for protection of Good Samaritans and draft rules as per MV (Amendment) Act, 2019 has been published.
  - iv. Emergency care:
    - a. The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019 provides for a scheme for the cashless treatment of victims of the accident during the golden hour.
    - b. The National Highways Authority of India has made provisions for ambulances at all toll plazas on the completed corridor of National Highways.
    - c. Further, out of this, 297 ambulances have been upgraded to Basic Life Support as per AIS-125 and upgradation for the remaining is under process.
- (c) The Ministry does not have any separate fund for the purpose. However, whatever rectifications/improvement are required are fulfilled from the overall allocated funds to this Ministry.

**ANNEX REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2372 ANSWERED ON 9<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2021 ASKED BY SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: REGARDING ACCIDENTS ON HIGHWAYS DUE TO ROAD ENGINEERING ISSUES.**

**Table: Road accidents by type of traffic rules violation during 2018 and 2019**

Sr. No	Traffic rules violation	Number of accidents		% change in accidents in 2019 over 2018
		2018	2019	
i	<b>Over-speeding</b>	3,10,612	3,19,028	2.7
	<b>% share of total</b>	66.5	71.1	
ii	<b>Drunken driving/consumption of alcohol &amp; drugs</b>	12,018	12,256	2.0
	<b>% share of total</b>	2.6	2.7	
iii	<b>Driving on wrong side/ Lane indiscipline</b>	24,781	24,431	-1.0
	<b>% share of total</b>	5.3	5.4	
iv	<b>Jumping red light</b>	4,441	4,443	0.0
	<b>% share of total</b>	1.0	1.0	
v	<b>Use of mobile phone</b>	9,039	10,522	16.0
	<b>% share of total</b>	1.9	2.3	
vi	<b>Others</b>	1,06,150	78,322	-26.0
	<b>% share of total</b>	22.7	17.4	
vii	<b>Total</b>	<b>4,67,041</b>	<b>4,49,002</b>	<b>-4.0</b>

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